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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, October 24, 2005, at noon.

Senate

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2005

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JOHNNY ISAKSON, a Senator from the State of Georgia.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O God of mercy and love, we come to You to open ourselves to Your endless patience and power. You forgive us when we disappoint You and when we fail others. You refresh us for each day's challenges. You protect us from seen and unseen dangers and continue to shower our lives with blessings. Fill us with Your Spirit so that we will touch the lives of those who feel the winds of despair.

Use our Senators today as Your ambassadors of hope. Give them the power of unity and the gift of wisdom.

Empower us all to live lives worthy of Your goodness. We pray this in the name of Him who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JOHNNY ISAKSON led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication

to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, October 21, 2005.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHNNY ISAKSON, a Senator from the State of Georgia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

TED STEVENS,
President pro tempore.

Mr. ISAKSON thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this morning, we will begin consideration of the Labor-HHS appropriations bill, which is our final appropriations bill for the year. Chairman SPECTER will begin with an opening statement, and other Members are welcome to come to the floor to open the debate on the bill.

I mentioned last night that we would not have any votes today and that the next vote will begin at 5:30 p.m. on Monday. Senator SPECTER is eager to begin the bill, and we ask Senators who have amendments to contact the two managers. Amendments may be offered during Monday's session, and we expect Senators to come forward at that time with their amendments.

I also congratulate Senators BOND and MURRAY for their tremendous work on the Transportation-Treasury appropriations bill over this past week. That bill, which passed last night by a vote of 93 to 1, was completed this week because of the two managers' patience and persistence and determination.

We do not have many weeks left in this first session and, therefore, I remind Senators that we need to use each day wisely. I hope we will be able to move quickly next week on our final appropriations bill, as we wrap up our budget and appropriations process for the year.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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